

Councilmember Jane Hague

Fall 2002

# County Report

METROPOLITAN  
KING COUNTY  
COUNCIL  
**DISTRICT 11**

Dear Neighbors,

Our decennial redistricting process has moved many of you within District 11 boundaries – Welcome! For those of you who remain, please accept my continuing service. I encourage you to visit my website at: [www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/Members/d11](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/Members/d11) to review more details and issues relevant to King County, the Eastside and my duties on your behalf. As always, my goal as a County Councilmember is to make our governmental body more **understandable, accountable** and **accessible** to the people it represents.

With a change to Democratic leadership by a 7-6 margin, I was appointed Chair of the Growth Management & Unincorporated Areas Committee and Vice Chair of both the Budget & Fiscal Management Committee and the Utilities Committee. I serve on the Council's Strategic Advisory Committee and the Labor, Operations and Technology Committee. Additionally, I am Board member to the following outside committees: Sound Transit, Eastside Transportation Partnership, Growth Management Planning Council and its Executive Committee, Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management Policy Board, Puget Sound Regional Council Operations Committee, the Executive Committee of the National Association of Counties and the Washington State Association of Counties Board of Directors.

King County government faces unprecedented budget challenges throughout this year and the two years following. We refer to it as "the perfect storm" where labor issues, economic downturn, statewide initiatives, unfunded and new mandates will change the way we do business as a county. I hope to work with you and my colleagues in government to find better and more efficient ways to serve you.

It is an honor for me to have been your King County Councilmember for the past eight years. I look forward to working with you over the next four years to enhance our community with sound financial policies and an increased level of service.

At your service,



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Please visit my website @  
[www.metrokc.gov/mkcc](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc)

## The reasons for the county's budget crisis

Meanwhile, growth of general fund revenues are diminished as annex-

As Vice Chair of the Council's Budget Committee, I pledge to do my best to make County government work for you. I'll be open to new ideas, perhaps even heretical ideas. I'll be vigilant in seeking ways that we can make our general fund agencies

*The Seattle Times* editorialized that it is "a promising proposal to re-open parks closed during the budget crisis." I call it "thinking outside the box."



## PARK CLOSURES IN THE NEWS

# Hague works for creative solutions on Eastside

Parks issues  
will require us  
as  
policymakers  
to think  
creatively

about new ways to preserve our public  
resources throughout the county. My first priority, however, will always be  
to the people and facilities of District 11. And, here a bad news story is  
quickly becoming a good news story. Here are some of the highlights of  
our accomplishments to preserve these facilities for your use:

### **Juanita Beach Park has been transferred to the City of Kirkland.**

Kirkland has proven itself to be an excellent caretaker for its parks and  
recreational facilities. I was pleased to sponsor this legislation authorizing  
this transfer in November and it awaits the outcome of a bond issue to  
the voters of Kirkland.

### **O O Denny Park is identified as a site for pilot programs to test work crews and other potential solutions to the parks funding crisis.**

O O Denny Park is an incredible resource for the entire eastside, but for those  
residents of the Finn Hill and Holmes Point areas, it is a part of the fabric  
of their daily lives. It's a site for neighborhood picnics, a place where  
residents' children while away summer afternoons. Closed at the first of  
the year, I have worked to get the gates back open and to increase basic  
maintenance. It is an ideal facility to conduct a work crew pilot program.

**Ultimately, a new parks district is likely for the Finn Hill/Holmes Point  
area.** Citizens in this area of unincorporated King County are placing a  
proposal on the November ballot to form their own park district, tax  
themselves and thus ensure the future of the parks within their region.

**The fish ladder at O O Denny Park will be dedicated this month.** A  
three year effort, led by my office and involving the Denny Creek Neigh-  
borhood Alliance, and county, state and federal officials, has at last  
become reality. It has been a textbook project and I am so very proud of  
my constituents who marshaled thousands of hours of volunteer time as  
well as working to raise the public and private dollars needed.

**Bridle Trails State Park was pulled off the list of parks to be closed by  
the state.** I testified before state officials, outlining the unique character-  
istics of this park, the terrific support it enjoys from the community  
around it and requesting that the state seek other alternatives to closure.



Salmon are expected to begin return-  
ing to the creek as early as this fall  
with hatchery coho salmon returning  
within three to five years.



Councilmember Hague congratulates  
Jim Sproul (left), biologist and retired  
high school science teacher and  
George Ploudre, retired civil engineer,  
are volunteers who were crucial to the  
fish ladder project.

JANE HAGUE  
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## GET INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY

*"The human contribution is the essential ingredient. It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live."*  
— Ethel Percy Andrus

**There are so many non-profit organizations on the eastside that need volunteers, especially during our local and state budget crises. See our website for a small listing of organizations needing volunteers. [District 11 web site and select "Links":](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/Members/d11) [www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/Members/d11](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/Members/d11)**

## INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

Councilmember Jane Hague	(206) 296-1011
King County Information Line	296-0100
<b>CRISIS HOTLINES</b>	
24 Hour Helpline	722-3700
Alcohol and Substance Abuse	296-7615
Animal Control Complaints	296-PETS
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-422-4453
Non-Emergency Calls for	
King County Police	296-3311
Sexual Assault: 24-Hour Crisis Line	1-800-825-7273
	or 226-7273
Code Enforcement Hotline	1-888-437-4771

### TRANSPORTATION-RELATED INFO.

<b>Metro 24-Hour Rider Information</b>	553-3000
<b>Potholes or Garbage on County Roads</b>	296-8100
<b>King County Dept. of Transportation:</b>	
News and information site: <a href="http://www.metrokc.gov/kcdot/news/thisweek.htm">www.metrokc.gov/kcdot/news/thisweek.htm</a>	
<b>Regional Transportation</b>	
alert and news e-mail service: <a href="http://webapp.metrokc.gov/rpin">webapp.metrokc.gov/rpin</a>	
<b>Sound Transit:</b> <a href="http://www.soundtransit.org">www.soundtransit.org</a>	
<b>Washington State Department of Transportation</b>	
(WSDOT): <a href="http://www.wsdot.wa.gov">www.wsdot.wa.gov</a>	

## Transportation issues front and center

a rundown of  
some of the  
transportation  
projects many of  
you recently  
worked with me  
to initiate:

The grand opening for transit operation of this center took place in February of 2002.



## RIDGWAY TRIAL

## The cost of his defense

The bottom line, however, is that if the County were to defy a court order, it would be charged with contempt of court and forced into a lawsuit – costing the County another unknown amount of money.

We did, however, place simultaneous provisions within the appropriation to clarify how this case is unique and that its intent is not to use this trial as a precedent for exorbitant defense costs in future murder trials. A wise move, it would seem, since one such attempt has already been struck down in Superior Court.

### Bellevue Multi-Modal Transit Center:

And in Bellevue, expansion and reconstruction of the existing Bellevue transit center is now complete. You can expect improved transit service coordinating with the Bellevue I-405 HOV Direct Access project. A gala dedication is planned for late October.



## Transportation issues front and center

Interconnection of signals and installation of cameras in the Northshore area corridor is taking place. This will improve management of the corridor, especially during peak hours.

Based on constituent requests and with my urging, the King County Council passed legislation on July 22<sup>nd</sup> to create Road Improvement District (RID) 131. This RID was formed by citizen request and directs the County to take over maintenance of the area's private road. The boundaries of RID 131 are N.E. 138th Place and 64th Place N.E., south of St. Edwards State Park.



**This intersection in the Finn Hill neighborhood is the site of a fatal pedestrian and automobile accident, where a teenager lost his life, when struck by a speeding car.**

Under my sponsorship legislation was passed by the King County Council on July 22nd to change numerical street names in the Champagne Point area back to their original namesake. The changes include the names of 76th Avenue NE, NE 112th Street & 73rd Avenue NE to Champagne Point Road NE. Also, changing the name of 75th Avenue NE to Champagne Point Lane NE, and changing the name of a portion of NE 112th Street to NE Champagne Point Place.

Your concerns about speeding on Juanita-Woodinville Way were made clear when two teenagers were tragically killed while trying to cross this busy street. Citizens called for action, and in response I created a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) to develop solutions for speed control. From flashing lights on the pavement for crosswalks, to the installation of four speed-warning signs along 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, solutions have been implemented to address the speeding problems on and around Juanita-Woodinville Way.

Residents who live on or near Kirkland's 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE have been concerned about speeding issues, and especially about safety concerns of children walking to their schools located on 84<sup>th</sup>. In response I added a provision in 2001 to the 2002 Roads Department Budget, to study pedestrian safety on the 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE corridor to and around its schools. The study results are being compiled and a report will be ready soon.

In addition, a fatal accident occurred in the South Finn Hill end of 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE at the end of June, 2002. Citizens cried out for solutions. I met with concerned neighbors three times within the two months following the accident. I am working to implement both short and long term solutions to serious speeding problems at the southern end of 84<sup>th</sup> through increased patrols, neighborhood speed watches and more.